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to be put together so as to form a rectangular rack, on the cross-pieces of which are laid very heavy binders' pasteboards, and on these, in an orderly arrangement, the specimens are to be kept. As the inside measurement is twenty-seven and one-half by eighteen inches, specimens of ordinary size may be laid in two ranks. One can keep the left-hand row for his personal herbarium, and the right-hand for duplicates; and the size of the whole article may be modified easily to suit one's needs. To keep out the dust curtains may easily be fastened on wire so as to slide readily at the front; and permanent curtains may be tastefully fastened to sides and back, so that the general appearance will be quite ornamental, and the good wife will no more complain of those everlasting roots and herbs.—F. D. KELSEY, *Helena, Montana*.

Erigeron Tweedyi, n. sp.—Whole plant (almost silvery) canescent with minute rather soft pubescence; caudex branching, bearing many rigid, erect slender stems a span high, sparingly branched near the summit, the branches monocephalous: radical leaves thickish and firm, broadly obovate-spatulate, abruptly acuminate, rather indistinctly callous-tipped, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long by $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide, on slender petioles twice their length; stem leaves few and small spatulate-lanceolate: heads rather small; bracts of the involucre narrow lanceolate, greenish with somewhat scarious margins: achenia compressed, hirsute; pappus simple.—Belonging to the section containing *E. asperuginus* Gray, and of striking appearance for the genus. The crowded caudices and obovate canescent radical leaves much resemble those of some species of *Eriogonum*, and are unlike those of any *Erigeron* I know of. Under the microscope the hairs of the leaves, etc., have a singular appearance, being composed of two (or sometimes three) cells, the lower one being generally much shorter and of less diameter than the upper. Growing on rocky dry hills along Trail Creek, southwestern Montana, at an elevation of 6,000 feet. It is a peculiar pleasure to give this plant the name of its discoverer, Mr. Frank Tweedy, author of an excellent catalogue of the "Flora of Yellowstone Park."—WM. M. CANBY, *Wilmington, Del.*

EDITORIAL.

IN no one thing do American botanists show more negligence than in the historical study of a research. It seems to us that the *first* duty of a student is to find out what has been done by others in the line of observation selected, and the second to correct and extend those observations. One can hardly go amiss in choosing a field of work; but he may waste a great deal of valuable time in doing exactly what others have done before, time which should be spent in adding to preceding knowl-